WASHTENAW COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY - Founded December 17, 1857 MARCH 1987

WASHTENAW IMPRESSIONS

WASHTENAW COUNTY'S ORANGE RISDON PRODUCED FIRST LARGE SCALE MAP OF SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN

Washtenaw County's Orange Risdon, pioneer surveyor and founder of Saline, produced the first large scale map of southeastern Michigan a year before the better known derivative John Farmer map of 1826.

The Newberry Library of Chicago recently acquired a copy according to an article in their publication, *Mapline,* called to our attention by WCHS Director Dave Pollock.

Titled "Map of the surveyed part of the territory of Michigan," (Albany, 1825) it names Monroe, Lenawee, Wayne, Washtenaw, Macomb, Oakland, St. Clair, Lapeer, Shiawassee, Sanilac and Saginaw although several of them had not yet been organized as counties and Sanilac had not been surveyed at all.

The article quotes an account of an 1874 meeting of the Washtenaw County Pioneer Society reported in volume one of the *Michigan Pioneer Collections,* 1877.

L.D. Norris spoke about the map. Orange Risdon himself was in the audience, "in his 93rd year, hale and hearty." Also attending were Mr. Alpha Washtenaw Bryan, the first white child born in the county, and his vigorous 80-year-old mother.

On Risdon's map "the average village is indicated by four black dots of fly specs," Norris said. Ann Arbor had ten specks; Woodruff's Grove, 8 Ypsilanti, 3; and Dexter, 2. (Detroit had 20.)

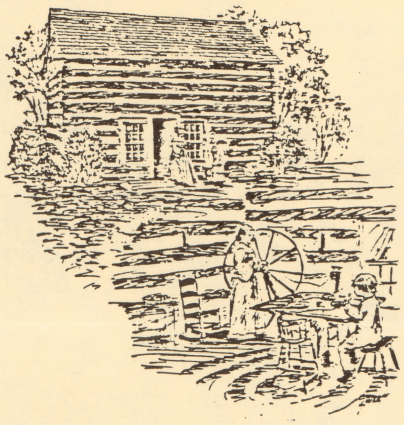
"Though Dixborough has a name as large and as black as the rest, yet it appears not to have reached the dignity of one speck," Norris said.

The map mistakenly showed sections 7 of Pittsfield and 12 of Lodi as all iron ore, but Norris noted the residents of those sections had "kept curiously still." (Ann Arbor-Saline Road runs across those sections between Waters and Ellsworth Roads.)

The Risdon map showed projected roads, most notably the Detroit-Chicago Road (now Michigan Avenue and U.S. 12) with a fork to Ypsilanti and Dexter, another to Tecumseh.

Another road led northeasterly from Detroit to Pontiac and the "Sagnaws". The Pottawattamie trail up and down the Huron, used by the Indians on their way from the far west to their payments at Malden, is also shown.

The Detroit-Chicago road "was first cut through toward Ypsilanti in advance of the first white child born in the limits of old Washtenaw," Norris said.



HARRIS-SMITH LOG HOUSE
(See "Kids" page 5.)

IMPORTANT NOTICE!!! FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Aliens and Scoundrels, a full-length play by Ellen Prosser, will be produced at the Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre June 3-6, 1987. Based on the personalities and events surrounding Michigan statehood in 1837, *Aliens and Scoundrels* is a major Sesquicentennial celebration in our area.

The Michigan Council for the Arts has awarded the WCHS $9,000 to assist in play production. We need WCHS members' involvement in ticket/box office management, costuming, and set construction.

Members with a bent for acting are encouraged to audition. *Everybody* is urged to attend and share the excitement of Michigan's birth. Interested? Questions? Please call Galen Wilson at 764-2347 (days) or 662-7784 (evenings).

OHIO GAVE MICHIGAN HARD TIME IN 1830S; HEAR ABOUT IT MARCH 8

Ohio gave Michigan a hard time long before they met on the football field. Ohio held up Michigan's entrance into the union and wrested acres, not yards, from Michigan Territory when it became a state 150 years ago.

The controversy which generated a lot of strong feelings in the 1830s was called the Toledo War.

As Michigan celebrates its sesquicentennial, WCHS will hear all about the Toledo War and Michigan statehood struggle at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, March 8, at Clements Library 909 South University, Ann Arbor.

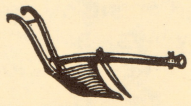
The speaker will be Roy Kiplinger, assistant to Manuscript Curator Galen Wilson at Clements. Kiplinger is a U-M senior in history from Northville.

Refreshments will be served. Parking is free Sundays in U-M structures on Forest near South "U" and Hill Street near Tappan.

WCHS NOW HAS 46% OF POINTS FOR SCREEN

WCHS has more than 46 percent of the Knapp's restaurant points needed to obtain a movie and slide screen thanks to a number of kind members and friends. The goal is 5,450 points. WCHS now has 2,542.

All you have to do, if you eat at Knapp's, is ask for your points when you pay your bill. Save the yellow point slips and bring or send them to Alice Ziegler, 537 Riverview, Ann Arbor, MI 48104. You or your friends can get points at any Knapp's.



MILL RESTORATION TO BE APRIL TOPIC

Taylor and Charlene Jacobsen who are restoring a secluded old flour mill on the river south of Saline will talk and show pictures about it at the WCHS meeting at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 23, at Clements Library. The Jacobsens, both art teachers in Saline Schools, bought the mill in 1978.

'FROST-BITTEN CONVENTION,' 1836

ROCKY ROAD TO STATEHOOD PAVED IN ANN ARBOR

An irregular, probably illegal, convention in Ann Arbor in December 1836 paved the way for Michigan to become a state 150 years ago. It was dubbed the "Frost-bitten Convention."

A commemoration of that event last December 15 in Ann Arbor fittingly kicked-off Michigan's sesquicentennial celebration.

The program was held Monday, December 15, the very date that the convention concluded its two-day meetings 150 years before and agreed to Congress's offer of two-thirds of the western Upper Peninsula instead of the more desired "Toledo strip."

About 200 attended the event highlighting Ann Arbor's part in bringing about Michigan statehood held at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library on the University of Michigan North Campus.

It was sponsored by the Washtenaw County Sesquicentennial Committee headed by David Pollock and U-M Celebration '87, chaired by Dean Robert W. Warner of the U-M School of Information and Library Sciences.

Dean Warner, former United States archivist and former director of Bentley Library, was the main speaker.

While Peter Fletcher of Ypsilanti was master of ceremonies the convention was officially called to order by Flora Burt of Chelsea, great-great-granddaughter of John R. Williams of Detroit, president of the original convention.

Oriana musical ensemble, with Norma Gentile, vocalist, led off by singing and playing "Hail Columbia," which was accepted as the national anthem in 1836. Later they performed music of the period including early versions of "Yankee Doodle" and "The Star Spangled Banner."

Welcoming the audience on behalf of the county and the University of Michigan were Meri Lou Murray, chairman of the county board of commissioners, and Francis X. Blouin, Jr., director of the Michigan Historical Collections at Bentley Library. Bill Zehnder of Frankemuth, chairman of the Michigan Sesquicentennial Commission, was introduced.

Former Governor John B. Swainson of Manchester, president of the Michigan Historical Commission, discussed the make-up of the original convention and introduced descendants of original delegates present.

WASHTENAW COUNTY'S FIRST COURTHOUSE, 1834-1878
'Frost-bitten Convention' met there, voted for statehood December 15, 1836.
Michigan Historical Collections

Governor Swainson said the original delegates ranged in age from 27 to 70 years, most at the younger end. "In fact, in 1840, it was determined that about 75 percent of the citizens of Michigan were twenty-some or less."

"A few had a college education, many had little formal education. They were predominantly farmers, loggers, mechanics, tradesmen and a number of public office holders and lawyers.

"Seventy-eight delegates were elected but only 73 signed the final resolution. Some had served in the convention that drew up the state constitution, a few had served in the first convention of assent but for most this was their first venture in public office.

"Some later served in the state legislature and in Congress and the courts. Most were Democrats, a few Whigs. They voted themselves $3 a day, the same rate state legislators were paid, and they authorized expenses of $3 for every 20 miles traveled.

"Now that may seem excessive, but you have to realize that 20 miles was about the best a man could ride in a day on horseback, particularly in winter.

"In reading the names, I think my favorite is 'Pearly Gates,' Governor Swainson said.

"There was a flood of immigration coming into Michigan in the 1830s," Dean Warner noted, "a vast wave of people largely from New England and New York but also Virginia and other parts of the country.

"At the time statehood was governed by the Northwest Ordinance which said that when a region had 60,000 people it could apply for admission into the union. By 1836 there were 200,000 people in Michigan Territory.

"The people of this area wanted statehood. They took it upon themselves since there was not official action by Congress.

"This was the era of 'popular sovereignty,' Jacksonian democracy. People were thought to have power to do things on their own as far as government is concerned. They elected delegates to a constitutional convention which met in May and June 1835 and drew up a state constitution, a really fine document modeled closely on the U.S. constitution.

"It was promptly ratified by the people who also elected Stevens T. Mason the first governor of

Michigan. At this time he was only 24 years old. That is why he is forever known as the 'boy governor.'

"Mason had served as secretary of the territory and acting governor. He was impetuous but he was a very strong supporter of statehood.

"There were very good reasons why it was to Michigan's advantage to become a state in the federal union. It's hard to understand in these days of staggering deficits, but in 1836, there was a surplus in the federal treasury.

"The government decided to distribute it to the states, but they had to be a state to share.

"There were a lot of pressures from politicians. We had elected a congressman, two senators, and all state officers but they really couldn't hold office until we had statehood.

"Of course there was the obvious reason of pride. The people of Michigan wanted to be part of the full union and have their say in the councils of government.

"The big obstacle was the dispute over our southern boundary with Ohio. Michigan wanted a line called for in the Northwest Ordinance from the bottom of Lake Michigan extending east.

"What that would do, and it was important, was to put the mouth of the Maumee River in Michigan where present-day Toledo is located.

"Ohio claimed that this area was part of Ohio. Although it didn't have the best legal documents on its side—Michigan had those—it had something that was probably more important. It had the political power because Ohio was already a state, admitted in 1803, and represented in Congress.

"Michigan's strategy was to try to get admitted to the union without having the border controversy settled. Then it would be on equal footing with Ohio as a state.

"When you have a dispute between two states it is not settled by Congress, where Ohio obviously had a lot of power, but would be settled by the U.S. Supreme Court.

"I'm summarizing a lot of very complicated events very briefly, but this led to some very bitter feelings between Ohio and Michigan.

"Both appropriated funds, to finance hostilities against one another—very serious business—and both sides actually mobilized their state militia.

"Michigan actually arrested some members of the survey party and it got so hot President Jackson, with his own problems, fired Mason and tried to calm things down.

"As far as casulties, however, I'm pleased to report that we probably had more casualties at the annual Michigan-Ohio football game than we had during this so-called Toledo War.

"In fact, the only casualty I've ever been able to discover was a stabbing—not a very serious one at that—by an Ohioan named 'Two' Stickney.

"Two Stickney was the son of a very dedicated and enthusiastic Ohio booster and state official, Benjamin Stickney who was not very imaginative in his choice of names for his children. He named the first 'One', the second 'Two' and the third, 'Three.'

THEY GAVE UP TOLEDO STRIP UNHAPPILY

The Frost-bitten Convention accepted Congress's deal of the western two-thirds of the Upper Peninsula instead of the "Toledo strip" but they didn't like it, Dr. Warner said.

"In the resolution they pointed out that they thought it was very unjust to require this assenting convention to meet at all.

"They didn't like the boundary but would swallow their pride and agree to accept the boundary in order to promote tranquillity and harmony among the states."

"This unseemly dispute, of course, couldn't go on. Congress wouldn't stand for it and Congress did have the authority to settle the dispute. It imposed a settlement by passing a law in June 1836.

"The act placed Toledo (then Port Lawrence) and the mouth of the Maumee in Ohio, exactly what Ohio wanted. But to ease Michigan's hurt feelings and pride they granted the western two thirds of the Upper Peninsula as compensation.

"Now, of course, we all got wiser and realize this was a good bargain and shouldn't have been resisted at all.

"But this settlement was not popular in Michigan, particularly in Monroe County which was going to have to give up a lot of its prime acreage. Because Congress knew there was this hostility and they wanted to be sure this matter was ended once and for all they required that Michigan should ratify this agreement in a convention.

"To carry out this stipulation, the Territorial Legislature authorized election of delegates to a convention to ratify this agreement proposed by Congress.

"It met in Ann Arbor in September 1836. The Whigs and conservatives in Monroe County were strongly opposed to accepting this bargain and this group controlled the convention. The convention rejected Congress's bargain 28-21.

"Almost at once this led to a counter movement to reverse the decision. Steps were taken which led directly to the second convention of assent or 'frost-bitten convention.'

"Political leaders wanted to devise a method by which the decision could be reversed. Governor Mason gave them a formula. We might look a bit askance at it but this is what he proposed.

"He said there is no need for the legislature to authorize this convention—this is his own phrase from his own report—people in their original capacity can act on their own.

"The leadership took place in Wayne county, particularly by John R. Williams. Elections were held throughout Michigan December 5 and 6. Interestingly, they did draw more votes than all those who had voted for delegates to the September convention.

"Opponents to admission stayed away from the polls so you have some very interesting vote totals. You might think it a vote of the Soviet Union.

Monroe County had nothing to do with the election which they thought extreme and unauthorized. They elected no delegates.

That brings us to December 14 and 15 in Ann Arbor where the second convention of assent which we commemorate today was held.

"Why the 'frost-bitten convention?', Dean Warner said. "Dave Pollock is probably correct that it was a term of derision by those who opposed it more than the weather. But, as a matter of fact, it was snowy winter weather, not a wonderful day like this.

"There is a diary over in Clements Library of a Universalist minister of the time. He reported three inches of snow, and a day or so later, six inches. It was a snowy, cold atmosphere in which the convention was taking place.

"What was Ann Arbor like in 1836? This big, very important meeting was to be held in the Courthouse of Washtenaw County. The Courthouse then took only a small portion of Courthouse Square. The rest was empty. This small building faced the street about the middle of the block.

"It was a relatively new building. The cornerstone had been laid on June 19, 1833. It was two-story brick with hexagonal wooden cupola and was painted brown. Downstairs was used for county offices, upstairs for court rooms where the meeting would take place. This building lasted until 1877.

"The streets around the square were unpaved with frozen ruts. There were no trees on Main Street. Despite unpaved, rutted streets it was regarded as a pleasant village.

"Ezra Maynard, an early pioneer, wrote in a letter a year after the village was founded, 'It is a most delightful place for a city or village in the world.' He probably has the honor of being the first Chamber of Commerce promoter.

'You might still see Indians coming to town, at least Mrs. E.W. Morgan did back in 1831 when she wrote a relative back in Connecticut:

> You who know so little of Indians would be highly gratified to see the wild natives of the forest in their native costume.
>
> They pass here more or less every day and be there ever so many together they are always in what we call Indian file.
>
> They come here to trade and bring sugar, venison, a kind of matting made of reeds, cranberries and sometimes other berries. Venison and deer skins are the principal articles that they sell. In return, they get whiskey and every article of clothing, always selecting the gayest colors.'

"Ann Arbor was still very new as a town. It had been founded only 12 years before by John Allen and Elisha Rumsey just in time to take advantage of the big wave of immigration into Michigan.

"This immigration did make some problems. Mrs. Morgan, whose 1831 letter I just quoted said, 'Immigrants are coming in so fast that people charge what they please for rent.' So rent gouging has an old, old history, but the University hadn't moved to town yet so there were no protest movements to bring down the high rent.

"What were some of these rents? I found a two-story four-room house which rented for the extraordinary sum of $50 a year. They were able to save a little money, however, because they sublet the barn for 12 cents a week.

"With about 2,000 people, Ann Arbor was then the second largest town in the state. Besides a Courthouse it had a jail, bank, four churches—Presbyterian, Baptist, Episcopal and Universalist—two printing offices each publishing a weekly newspaper, bookstore, two druggists, flour mill, saw mill, woolen factory and carding machine, iron foundry (probably a blacksmith shop), two tanners, 17 dry goods sellers, 11 lawyers, 9 physicians and an academy with 70 pupils.

THEIR ANCESTORS VOTED FOR STATEHOOD

Descendants of original delegates to the "Frost-Bitten Convention" present at the commemoration were:

Flora Burt of Chelsea, great-great-granddaughter of John R. Williams of Detroit, a main organizer and president of the original convention. He was a five-term mayor of Detroit. John R. Street in Detroit in named after him.

Lucy Thomson and Ann Spence of Flint, descendants of Gardner D. Williams of Saginaw County.

Betty Norman and Louise Tritten of Plymouth (Archibald Y. Murray of Canton township, Wayne County).

Ralph Muncy of Ann Arbor (Elisha Congdon, a founder of Chelsea).

Herbert Conant of Plymouth, great-grandson of Samuel Denton, founder of Denton between Wayne and Ypsilanti.

Coleman Jewett of Ann Arbor, descendant of George Jewett, Washtenaw County, was not present.

After the convention, you would find it summarized in the weekly newspaper and national news as well. Andrew Jackson was then a lame duck. You might read:

> President Jackson's health is mending. His entire constitution has for years been gradually giving away. If, however, he should be spared during the present winter it's not unreasonable to hope that in the quiet of retirement at the Hermitage, free from the harassing cares of public business (You see all presidents have harassing cares.) he will recruit sufficient strength for a prolonged existence.

"Also you could learn from the Ann Arbor paper, which was called the *Michigan Argus,* there were two newly arrived doctors in town and, wanting business, they placed the following notice in the paper (health care advertising isn't new either):

> Dr. Jefferson and Dr. Backus have opened an office south of the post office. They have an excellent supply of surgical instruments and are ready to perform any operation which may be necessary to relieve the afflicted.

Also under the heading, "Preserve Your Health" was an ad for 150 pairs of flannel drawers, Dean Warner noted.

David Taylor called attention to another problem:

> "Stray Ox came into the enclosure of subscriber in November, a brown speckle faced three- or four-year-old. Owner is requested to prove property, pay charges and take him away."

"Why did the convention take place in Ann Arbor? Detroit was rejected because it was the Territorial capital and the center of too much controversy already. Monroe, another village of comparable size, was rejected because the citizens there were almost unanimous against accepting Congress's bargain.

"Ann Arbor had very energetic promoters who wanted to promote the city in every way. They saw having the meeting here as a good way to call attention to the city. Then, of course, it had a building large enough to have it.

"Eight-two delegates were elected but not all showed up. As already noted, John R. Williams, a distinguished Detroiter and five-term mayor, opened the convention urging 'harmony and dispatch' in getting the job done and that's exactly what the convention did.

"Some guests were present. Members of the legislature were invited. The lieutenant governor and chief justice of the Supreme Court, both Ann Arborites, and the state treasurer were present. Clergy of Ann Arbor were invited to open all sessions with prayer.

"There was only one real controversy in this really quite harmonious meeting. That was to determine the number of persons to go to Washington to carry the news of this convention. They agreed on two, John R. Williams, and H.L. Stewart of Berrien County.

"They accepted Congress's deal although they didn't like it. But that was not quite the final chapter because you had to get Congress and the President to accept that this was a legitimate convention.

"So this is why they sent Williams and Stewart to Washington with a number of documents to be placed before the Senate.

"About three months ago I was down at the National Archives and discovered a nice big, fat file of all the original documents sent by the convention of assent to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

He gave two brief quotes from it.

Michigan's Congressional delegation — one representative and two senators who couldn't take office — wrote in a statement to Senator Felix Grundy, head of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

> "May we also competently affirm that a very large majority of the people of Michigan are in favor from considerations of expediency and policy of coming into the Union on the conditions prescribed because their pride as well as their interest dictates they should become a member of that union and have a voice in its councils of which they have so long been excluded after they were entitled to admission."

John R. Williams wrote to the Michigan Congressional delegation:

> "The convention which assembled on the 14th instant at Ann Arbor met under discouraging circumstances. The weather and the roads were both extremely bad.
>
> Yet, although many members of the convention had to travel upwards of 100 miles through a new country on excessively bad roads, the convention was fully attended and their deliberations entirely unanimous.
>
> "I am fully satisfied that the admission of Michigan into the union at this time will be hailed with great satisfaction by a large majority of the best and most influential friends of the state and by all the people of the Territory."

Immediately following the ceremonies, Washtenaw County Historical Society hosted a reception at Bentley Library next door to Ford Library.

MEMBERSHIP DUES INFO HERE, JOIN TODAY

Reminder: It's time to renew your membership or join if you haven't already.

Membership is $8 individual per year, $15 a couple. Senior individual is $6, senior couple, $11. Sustaining is $50, commercial, $25, and student, $2. Persons 60 or more are eligible for senior membership. Only one of a couple need be 60.

To join send name, address and phone number with check or money order payable to Washtenaw County Historical Society to Pauline Walters, Membership Chairman, 2200 Fuller Road, B-1202, Ann Arbor, MI 48105. Questions? Call Ms. Walters at 663-2379 evenings/weekends.

KIDS TO GET TASTE OF LOG HOUSE LIVING

Thanks to a number of people, a log house built in 1836-37 in Augusta township will be giving local children a hands-on taste of pioneer living at Cobblestone Farm come spring.

Ann Arbor Mayor Edward Pierce presided at dedication ceremonies December 7. Patricia Austin, past WCHS president, now chairman of the city historic district commission, cut the ribbon.

Built by Joseph Harris, it was donated by Bert Smith of Tecumseh. The late Professor Leigh Anderson, past WCHS president, arranged the move. WCHS contributed $2,500 toward restoration.

WCHS PARTICIPATES IN CLEMENTS SALE

WCHS had sixteen boxes of books which did not fit into the Society's collecting theme and the U-M's Clements Library graciously allowed WCHS to offer them in its duplicates sale.

The WCHS board approved disposal in 1984. WCHS members received post card notice in January of the sale which was to end February 28. A catalogue listing all items was issued and sale was to be by sealed bid.

BIRTHDAY BALL MARKS MICHIGAN'S 150TH

Michigan officially became a state on January 26, 1837, when President Andrew Jackson signed the bill.

So, a gala Michigan Sesquicentennial Birthday Ball was held Monday, January 26, at the Michigan League Ballroom in Ann Arbor, one of several around the state.

The Ann Arbor Chamber Orchestra, conducted by Carl Daehler, played 19th century waltzes and polkas as well as more modern music for dancing.

David Park Williams and the Cobblestone Farm Country Dancers in period costume led off the beginning grand march and demonstrated the plain quadrille and the Spanish Waltz.

A large birthday cake decorated with a map of Michigan was served. Fat Bob Taylor of WAAM Radio and Peter Fletcher were masters of ceremonies.

The ball was co-sponsored by U-M Celebration '87 and the county sesquicentennial advisory committee. Paulette Shores was general chairman. WCHS members involved included David Pollock, Marguerite Harms and Marilou Warner.

GENEALOGISTS TO HEAR ABOUT PLAT MAPS

The Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County will now meet at Washtenaw Community College, 4800 East Huron River Drive, in Lecture Hall II on the second floor of the Liberal Arts and Science Building with parking in Lot A off Huron River Drive.

William Miles, librarian of the Clarke Historical Library at Central Michigan University, will speak at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 22, on "Plat Maps: a Genealogical Source." Business meeting, 1:30. Class follows on "Using Photography for Genealogy.

Doris Milliman of the Ypsilanti Historical Museum will talk about the museum April 26. Don Callard will lead a class on "Using the U-M Graduate Library."

HISTORICAL HAPPENINGS INVOLVE:
PIONEER CRAFTS, 150 YEARS OF FASHION, STATE 'SESQUI', GIRL SCOUTS' 75TH

Chelsea Historical Society: 7:30 p.m. second Monday at Crippen Recreation Building at Chelsea Methodist Home. The Society and new Depot Association will both be raising funds to restore the railroad depot inside. Heat and floor refinishing are priority items. They plan to present a citation of appreciation to Will Conley who did so much to help obtain the depot for the community.

Dexter Society: 7:30 p.m. first Thursday at Museum, 3443 Inverness.

The 14th annual pioneer craft fair will be from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, March 21, at Dexter High School on Baker Road, featuring many types of crafts demonstrations and luncheon.

The museum's large collection of period clothing will be featured in a fashion show and dessert luncheon at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 11 at Wylie Middle School, in honor of Michigan's sesquicentennial.

They have dresses dating from 1830 to the 1950s plus some 1780 capes. Historical slides and period music will accompany the show.

For tickets, $6.50 each, send check or money order and self-addressed stamped envelope to Dexter Area Historical Society, 3443 Inverness, Dexter, MI 48130.

The museum will be open 1-3 p.m. Saturdays, beginning April 4. Special display of old Girl Scout uniforms in honor of 75th anniversary of Girl Scouts.

Manchester Society: 7:30 p.m. third Monday at Blacksmith Shop, 324 East Main. Former Governor John Swainson of Manchester, chairman of the Michigan Historical Commission, will speak about Michigan's sesquicentennial at the March meeting.

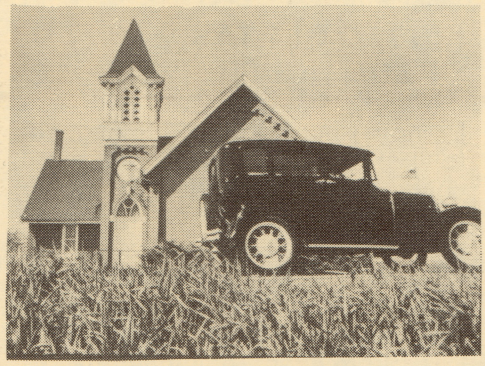
Annual joint meeting with Clinton Society at Clinton 7 p.m. May 5 at Clinton High School. Candace Anderson of Kalamazoo, a folk singer, will sing original songs about pioneer Michigan women.

The Manchester Society is working to put plaques on as many historical buildings there as possible this year. They also hope to get a new gazebo built in the park this summer.

Pittsfield Society: 2 p.m. first Sunday at Township Hall, South State at Ellsworth Roads.

Salem Society: 7:30 p.m. fourth Thursday at former Salem Congregational Church, now The Raven Coffeehouse. Annual banquet in March with program on Michigan sesquicentennial.

Webster Society: 7:45 p.m. first Monday at Community House or members homes.

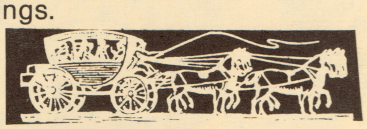


Model A Ford passing church near Potterville, Michigan. Photo from *Main Street: A Portrait of Small Town Michigan* by Manny Crisostomo, published by Detroit Free Press and Historical Society of Michigan.

Ypsilanti Society: Museum, 220 North Huron, open 2-4 p.m. Friday-Sunday. Archives open 9 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday. Queries welcome. To arrange group museum tours call 483-1876, Mrs. David Gauntlett.

Display of old valentines into March, Ypsilanti history in April and old text books and other old school items in May when children's goups visit. The Valentines were collected by Miss Ellen Gould, a former teacher in Van Buren Schools. Betty Tunnicliffe is in charge of exhibits.

The Society also still has some duplicate local history books for sale. For information call Doris Milliman at museum, 482-4990 mornings.



DEAN WARNER HEADS CELEBRATION '87

Dr. Robert M. Warner, dean of the U-M School of Information and Library Sciences and chairman of the U-M Celebration '87 committee, points out that there are several anniversaries of great events coming up in 1987.

Besides the sesquicentennial of Michigan statehood and of the establishment of the University at Ann Arbor in 1837 there are also two bicentennials—the Constitution of the United States, which laid the foundation for our form of government, and the Northwest Ordinance which provided for the expansion of states and laid the foundation for public education in America.

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WASHTENAW COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING

2:30 P.M. SUNDAY MARCH 8, 1987

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